

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

DPW-01 AID-20 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /120 W

----- 033846

R 250535 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8848

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 2155

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT JA

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER LEE'S VISIT TO JAPAN

REF: A) TOKYO 6022; B) SINGAPORE 1977

1. THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS REGARDING PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW'S VISIT TO JAPAN WERE MADE BY JAPANESE DCM, YOSHINAO ODAKA. LEE HAD MET TANAKA PREVIOUSLY WHEN LATTER WAS MITI MINISTER. THEY GET ALONG WELL AND, ACCORDING TO ODAKA, THEIR CONVERSATIONS DURING VISIT WERE FRIENDLY AND CONTAINED NOTHING CONTROVERSIAL.

2. DURING CONVERSATIONS WITH TANAKA LEE MADE NO MENTION OF MULTINATIONAL TASK FORCE AS REPORTED IN TOKYO PRESS CONFERENCE. HE DID TELL TANAKA THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE US FLEET MAINTAIN PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN TO COUNTERBALANCE SOVIETS, AND THAT TO FACILITATE THAT USN PRESENCE JAPAN SHOULD CONTINUE
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TO COOPERATE BY EXTENDING USE OF BASES IN JAPAN.
THERE WAS SOME MINOR MENTION OF THE STRAITS OF MALACCA
BUT NOTHING OF ANY SIGNIFICANCE.

3. THERE WAS NO EXTENDED CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE TWO
PRIME MINISTERS REGARDING RELATIONS WITH EITHER RUSSIA
OR CHINA. THERE WAS SOME TALK ABOUT REGIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS, MONETARY MATTERS, AND OTHER SUBJECTS
ABOUT WHICH ODAKA HAD LITTLE INFORMATION.

4. IN A SEPARATE SESSION WITH MFA DEPUTY SECRETARY
TAN BOON SENG, LITTLE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS
OBTAINED. PM' S PARTY DID NOT INCLUDE MFA REP AND
CONSEQUENTLY MFA DEPENDENT UPON INFORMATION FILTERING
DOWN FROM PM' S OFFICE. TAN CONFIRMED ODAKA' S VIEW
THAT CHINA AND RUSSIA ENTERED LITTLE INTO
CONVERSATION. HE ALSO HAD LITTLE LIGHT TO THROW
ON CONCEPT OF JOINT NAVAL FORCES, SAYING, INsofar AS
HE IS AWARE, THAT IT IS NEW IDEA ON PM' S PART.
MFA HAS YET TO RECEIVE PM' S MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION
WITH TANAKA ON GOLF COURSE, BUT ACCORDING TO TAN
ONLY OTHER SESSION WITH TANAKA WAS WORKING LUNCHEON
MEETING WHICH SINGAPOREANS FOUND QUITE UNSATISFACTORY.
APPARENTLY IT DID NOT OFFER OPPORTUNITY FOR
SERIOUS DISCUSSION.

5. EMBASSY HAS BEEN PRESSING GOS FOR COPY OF TOKYO PRESS
CONFERENCE TAPE BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. GOS IS PREPARING
TRANSCRIPT WHICH IT PROMISES MAKE AVAILABLE IN NEXT
DAY OR SO. CROCKER SNOW OF BOSTON BLOBE WHO WAS AT
LEE' S TAKYO PRESS CONFERENCE TELLS US THAT
JAPAN PRESS CLUB TAPED CONFERENCE AND THAT TAPE SHOULD
BE AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY TOKYO.

6. SINCE DRAFTING ABOVE, JAPANESE AMBASSADOR UOMOTO
WHO WAS IN TOKYO FOR VISIT TOLD DCM THAT POSSIBLY
JOINT TASK FORCE SUBJECT CAME UP IN LEE MEETING
WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL OF JAPAN' S DEFENSE AGENCY.
UOMOTO WAS UNABLE BE PRESENT AT MEETING AND IS NOW
WAITING FOR MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION FROM TOKYO.

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